



IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Ho et al.

Serial No.: 10/694,706

Filed: October 28, 2003

Title: A learning method and system that consider a student's concentration level

Atty Docket: 110 Cont3

Group Art Unit: 3714

Examiner: John E. Rovnak

RESPONSE A TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated June 21, 2004, in the above-identified patent application, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the following Remarks.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, Applicants were advised to elect one of the following three groups of claims: (A) Claims 39-51 and 56-57; (B) Claims 52-55; and (C) Claim 58 for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The Examiner indicated that currently none is generic.

In response, Applicants have elected group A (Claims 39-51 and 56-57), following the grouping by the Examiner. Applicants appreciate the comments provided by the Examiner in the Office Action.

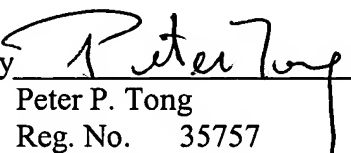
Though Applicants have elected group A, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to broaden the search and examination to cover the non-elected aspects of the inventions, as in claims in group B and group C. For example, claims under group A include the limitations of "presenting materials on the subject to the user via a computer; monitoring a timing regarding an input by the user to the computer, with the input being in response to the materials; analyzing the timing; and adjusting the materials presented in response to the analysis of the timing, wherein

the adjustment is capable of improving the user's concentration in learning the subject;" while claims under group B include the limitations of "presenting materials on the subject to the user via a computer; waiting for a user input to the computer, with the input being related to the materials presented; and upon a failure to receive the user input within a predetermined time period, adjusting the materials presented, wherein the adjustment is capable of attracting the user's attention to the materials." The claims are closely related. It may not be very burdensome to include limitations in all three groups in searches and examination.

Also, although Applicants have accepted the restriction requirement, the requirement is respectfully traversed on the basis that all claims have already received an action on the merits. As such, since an examination of the entire application has already been made, restriction should not be required even though the application might have included claims on distinct or independent inventions. Also, see M.P.E.P. §803, which states: "If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions."

Therefore, though Applicants have elected group A (Claims 39-51 and 56-57), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the remarks made herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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